

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claims 1-5, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Applicants' Prior Art (APA) in view of Crabill (U.S. Patent No. 4,841,253). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, stacked variable inductors that includes 1 to N inductors continuously connected in serial and at least one MOSFET, where one terminal of the at least one MOSFET is connected to one of a first and second ports, and the other one terminal is connected to one of adjacent terminals connected in serial between the 1 to N inductors. As admitted in the Office Action, on page 2, APA fails to disclose the MOSFET as claimed in claim 1. The Office Action relies on Crabill as allegedly teaching this feature. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Crabill merely discloses an amplifier circuit. Specifically, as seen in Figure 3, Crabill discloses a MESFET 150 and a plurality of inductors (e.g., LD1, L2, etc.). However, none of the inductors in Crabill's amplifier are stacked inductors. Therefore, Crabill does not disclose a MOSFET that is connected to stacked inductors. Further, there is no motivation to combine Crabill with APA. Accordingly, no combination of APA and Crabill teach or suggest, stacked variable inductors that includes 1 to N inductors continuously connected in serial and at least one MOSFET, where one terminal of the at least one MOSFET is connected to one of a first and second ports, and the other one terminal is connected to one of adjacent terminals connected in serial between the 1 to N inductors, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2-5, 8, and 9 are believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

B. Claims 1-5, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over APA in view of Yamauchi et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0064923). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above, claim 1 recites, in part, stacked variable inductors that includes 1 to N inductors continuously connected in serial and at least one MOSFET, where one

terminal of the at least one MOSFET is connected to one of a first and second ports, and the other one terminal is connected to one of adjacent terminals connected in serial between the 1 to N inductors. As admitted in the Office Action, on page 3, APA fails to disclose the MOSFET as claimed in claim 1. The Office Action relies on Yamauchi as allegedly teaching this feature. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Yamauchi merely discloses inductors 32b. Yamauchi does not teach stacked inductors as recited in claim 1 so does not teach or suggest a MOSFET connected to stacked inductors, as recited in claim 1. Further, there is no motivation to combine Yamauchi with APA. Accordingly, no combination of APA and Yamauchi teach or suggest, stacked variable inductors that include 1 to N inductors continuously connected in serial and at least one MOSFET, where one terminal of the at least one MOSFET is connected to one of a first and second ports, and the other one terminal is connected to one of adjacent terminals connected in serial between the 1 to N inductors, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2-5, 8, and 9 are believed allowable for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 6 and 7 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claim. In view of the foregoing, however, all of the claims (claims 1-9) are believed to be in form for allowance.

Conclusion

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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